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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JEREMY M. HUGHES
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

To: Interested Local Educators

From: Marilyn Roberts, Director
Office of Educational Assessment & Accountability

Date: May 19, 2006

Subject: **Michigan English Language Proficiency Assessment Standard Setting Committee Application**

One important aspect of developing tests for the Michigan English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) is to establish performance levels that will be used to report student results. The standard setting committee is an advisory committee that will look at actual student tests, item by item, decide the performance level which these test results represent using clearly defined performance level descriptions, and discuss the rationale for this decision with the other members. We need Michigan residents and educators to participate in this important activity.

Participants selected to be part of the Standard Setting Committee will meet in July 2006 under the direction of ELPA staff, the new ELPA administration contractor, and other curriculum and assessment specialists to set these score points. Participants will learn how to interpret test and test item data and consider issues of student performance when determining these important values, assuring that the Michigan ELPA is appropriate for the state's children and youth.

Applicants will be asked to attend one three-day meeting in July 2006. These meetings will take place on July 10, 11 and 12. The OEAA is offering compensation of \$250 per day, plus mileage, hotel expenses, and meals. In the event that a school district has to hire a substitute teacher for any meeting participant, the amount paid by the school for the substitute teacher will be deducted from this compensation amount. In addition to monetary compensation, you will also receive the satisfaction of knowing that you helped assure the quality of the Michigan ELPA.

I hope that you will seriously consider joining this exciting and challenging effort. To apply, complete the application by the due date of **June 10, 2006**. Please contact Joseph Martineau at (517) 241-4710 or martineauj@michigan.gov with any questions. Thank you in advance for considering this opportunity to assist us in this important activity.

Pc: Jeremy Hughes, Chief Academic Officer, MDE
Ed Roeber, Senior Executive Director, OEAA